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Date: September 4, 2002

By: Carol A. See

Carol A. See

PATENT
Docket No. GC593

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Dyson et al.

Serial No.: 09/435,461

Filed: November 5, 1999

For: ENZYMES USEFUL FOR CHANGING
THE PROPERTIES OF POLYESTER

Group Art Unit: 1651

Examiner: Michael V. Meller

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box RCE
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Applicants hereby submit the following preliminary amendment and request for suspension of prosecution of this application pending prosecution of a divisional application filed simultaneously.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 1, 6, 7, 12, 21, and 23 with the following clean copy of the claims. A marked up version of the claims is provided on a separate sheet.

1. (Four times amended) A method for modifying the surface of an aromatic polyester resin, film, fiber, yarn or fabric comprising treating said polyester with a polyesterase enzyme which, in a UV and a MB assay having controls without the polyesterase enzyme, produces at least a 10% greater absorbance than an absorbance of the control, the treatment occurring prior to the application of a finish and for a time and under conditions to modify the properties of said polyester, wherein said modified properties of said treated polyester are selected from the

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